

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT.

22³ July 1885, No. 3984.

Appointments—Royal Engineers.

Read the following papers:—

No. . From Brigadier-General GODFREY CLERK, Adjutant-General, to Lieutenant-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to Government, Military Department; dated Ootacamund, 2nd May 1885, No. 114-W.

Referring to Proceedings of the Madras Government, No. 2269, dated the 28th ultimo, forwarding a copy of a telegram as per margin from the Secretary to Government, Military Department, India, having reference to the establishment of Royal Engineer Officers, I am now desired to report, for the information of Government, the present requirements as regards Royal Engineer Officers for the Madras Sappers and Miners.

2. As Government is aware there are at present four Companies, Sappers and Miners, under orders for active service, and the following officers have been detailed for duty therewith:—

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Captain Dorward. | 5. Captain Connor. |
| 2. „ Boddy. | 6. „ Badgley. |
| 3. „ Langley. | 7. „ Speed. |
| 4. „ Attree. | 8. Lieutenant Anderson. |

It will be seen, however, that this will give only two officers per company, whereas the Commander-in-Chief considers, as does the Officer Commanding the corps, that each company should have at least three officers with it on taking the field.

3. It is understood that certain Royal Engineer Officers at present employed under Government could be made available for duty with the Sappers and Miners in the field, but these officers are either all Captains or Field Officers.

The list of officers already detailed for the four companies and given in the preceding paragraph shows that out of the eight officers seven are Captains, and His Excellency considers it very desirable that the other officers told off for duty with these companies should be Royal Engineer Subalterns. I am therefore to request that application may be made, by telegram, to the Government of India for the services of four Royal Engineer Subalterns for duty with the four Companies, Madras Sappers and Miners, under orders for active service in order that each company may have a complement of three officers when proceeding on service.

4. Besides these four Subalterns, two more officers will be required for duty with the companies remaining in the Presidency, that is, one in the place of Major Boileau, should that officer's request to be allowed to return to Bengal be granted (my letter, No. 89-O.W., dated the 24th ultimo), and another for duty at Bangalore, where there would, when the companies under orders for service leave, be only one officer who is Quarter Master, and who would then be Acting Adjutant, and also in charge of two companies and the dépôt company.

To recapitulate, therefore, the requirements are—

Four Royal Engineer Subalterns for duty with the four companies under orders for service.

Two Royal Engineer Officers for duty with the companies remaining in the Presidency.

5. I am further desired to forward copies of telegrams which have passed between this office and the Adjutant-General in India with reference to this question.

No. . Telegram to the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department; dated 6th May 1885, No. 2405.

No. . To the Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department; dated 6th May 1885, No. 2406.

No. . From Colonel G. CHESNEY, Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to Lieutenant-Colonel A. KENNEY-HERBERT, Officiating Secretary to the Government of Madras, Military Department; dated Simla, 2nd July 1885, No. 712-A.

Appointments—Royal Engineers.

In reply to your letter, No. 2406, dated the 6th May 1885, recommending that six Royal Engineer Officers may be provided for service with the four companies of Madras Sappers and Miners warned for service, I am directed to say, for the information of the Governor in Council, that if these companies have to take the field, Her Majesty's Government will be asked to send out some more Subalterns of Royal Engineers, but at present none are available, and while the companies remain in quarters, one officer per company should suffice. Further, that it was never intended that Captains of Royal Engineers should serve with the Sappers, except as commanding companies or on the staff, and that the surplus Captains should be drafted off as soon as possible to duties more appropriate for officers of that rank than the subordinate ones they are now fulfilling.

No. . ORDER THEREON, 22nd July 1885, No. 3984.

Ordered that the foregoing letter from the Government of India be communicated for the information of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and for guidance.

(True Extract.)

A. Kenney-Herbert Lt.-Col.,
Offg. Secretary to Government.

To the Adjutant-General.

„ Public Works Department. 1274/105/c

Exd. E. C. Shunker.

Recd 6524

757 w of 29th July/85

Govt. of (1885) Madras.

MILITARY.

To
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL,
&c., &c., &c.

Recorded
Recorded

Cd.
25.7.85

10 A.C

Dated July,

Issued

Recd. 25/7/85 Encl.

G.O., 22nd July 1885, No. 3984.

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25.7.85

No. 1757 w of 29th July 1885

JULY.
No.

Appointments—Royal Engineers.

Madras Sappers and Miners.—Letter from the Government of India relative to the appointment of Royal Engineer Officers to the —, communicated to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

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